



AUGUST 2013
VOLUME XXXVII No. 4

Walking Horse

News



DEDICATED TO THE PLAIN - SHOD TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE IN CANADA SINCE 1977



Walking Horse News

DEDICATED TO THE PLAIN-SHOD TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE IN CANADA

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On Our Cover

Charles Lacy
rides Sawdust
(Uphill Arnica)
up towards
Glacier Pass
in the Willmore
Wilderness Area,
north of Jasper
National Park, AB.
In the photo below
he's leading Maxie
(Uphill Miss Maxine)
packed with the kitchen
panniers, bedrolls and the
wash basin tied on top!

Photo by M.Lacy

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Dear Subscribers,

It's haying time here, but the weather isn't co-operating, with thunderstorms, rain squalls, and high humidity interspersed with really hot periods - and heavy fog this morning! I'm lucky to have one and a half sheds full of hay left from last year, so I should have enough. Hope everyone else will be as fortunate.

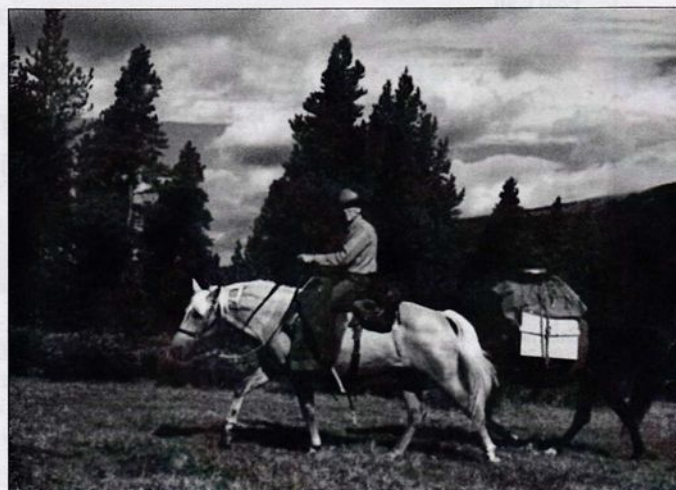
There were no replies to the questions Lissa Townsend posed last issue. Her sorrel gelding's background and pedigree are still unknown, and no one seems to know anything about offspring of Toddy's Apollo. It seems as if people are less interested in pedigrees and papers than they used to be. Maybe it's because there are so many more Tennessee Walking Horses now?

I am very sad to inform you that my husband Charles died very suddenly and unexpectedly at the end of June. I still can't quite believe it. We've been together for over 50 years. He was actually the one who wanted to get some trail horses when we moved to Alberta in 1966. He loved the mountains, and packing into them with horses felt like going back in time.

I will continue to publish *Walking Horse News* as long as you, the readers, continue to support it. But, as you can see, advertising is down. Subscriptions are too, so every renewal counts, and so does every ad.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Marjorie



WHN makes a
great gift!

Walking Horse News

August 2013

“DEDICATED TO THE PLAIN-SHOD TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE IN CANADA”

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Thank You for Advertising in

Walking Horse News!

*How about some news and ads
from your place?*

CANADIAN TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE
HISTORY & HERITAGE PROJECT

REMINISCENCES by Keith Doll

Photos courtesy of Jo-Anne McDonald

The story of Rock's Flicka by Kathy Minor on page three of the June *WHN* sure threw my 'remember' into 'reminisce'. MIDNIGHT STAR F.F. (aka Beauty, the dam of Rock's Flicka) was our first Walking Horse. We purchased her as a four-year-old from a Mrs. Brandon of Prince George, BC. She had purchased Beauty from Friesen Farms of Spence's Bridge as a weanling. It was about 1975 that we bought her. Betty Motherwell of Quesnel had a retired show stallion, RANDY'S MR. BARKER. From a mating to him Beauty had a gorgeous black colt, Sundown Barker. He was sold as a weanling to Bill and Cheryl Fletcher of Drayton Valley, AB.

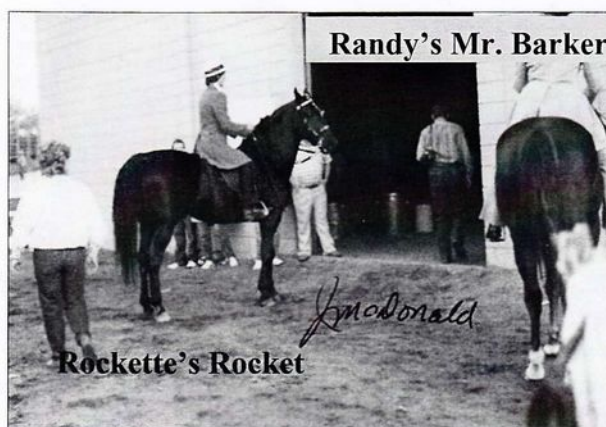
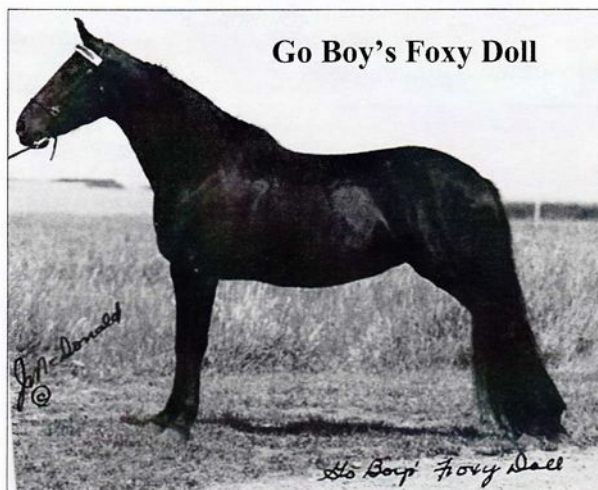
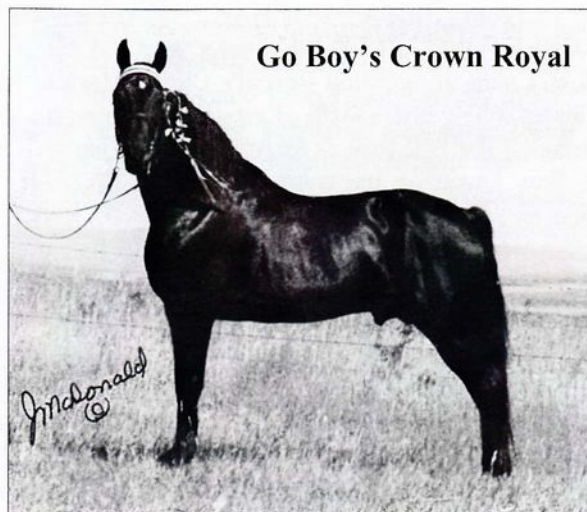
We then moved from BC to Brandon, Manitoba, and brought our mares with us. We bought GO BOY'S CROWN ROYAL from Mae Dingwall of Toronto, ON and picked him up at a breeding farm in Ohio. I still have the letters of communication about all that, as internet was unknown! But that is another story...

In 1981 Beauty and Royal had a black filly, GO BOY'S FOXY DOLL, and interest rates went up to 23 percent. We sold Beauty and Foxy to Betty Motherwell of Quesnel (and paid off the mortgage).

Not the end of the memories! Arrangements were made for us to deliver Beauty and Foxy to Helen Williamson's Westridge Farms, near Calgary, AB where a show/clinic was scheduled. In the trip to pick them up there, Betty and her friend who owned ROCKETTE'S ROCKET, brought him to compete at the show. The officials at the show would not let Rocket in the ring because his shoes were too heavy. We had to return home to Manitoba so we never knew what happened.

The last I heard from Betty was a picture of a two year old filly of Beauty's by Barker. That was many years ago, and evidently Betty mated Beauty to Rocket to produce Kathy's mare, ROCK'S FLICKA.

I was unable to locate a photo of Midnight Star F.F. If you have one, please send it along. It would be interesting to see a picture of her. MCL



NEWS - NEWS - NEWS

ALBERTA NEWS

From LESA LUCHAK, MAPLE LANE ACRES, TWO HILLS, "Almost a year and a half ago now, I sold my gelding Rascal's Check Mark to Kara Paisley. Together with Leroy and myself, they attended the Bill Roy & Dianne Little clinic at Noisy Hollow Farms on the weekend of May 25-26. It was nice to see the different types of Walkers and meet some new people. We learnt lots and had a great time. It's been about four years since I attended my first clinic with Bill and Dianne, and I sure hope I don't have to wait that long to attend another! Thank you to Bill and Dianne for doing such a great job teaching us; giving us something to work on to get to be better riders and help our horses to be able to move better. I would also like to send a big *Thank you* to Rhonda and Dave Lemmon for hosting the clinic and welcoming us all to their farm and home!"

"Would you please send Kara a complimentary copy of the *Walking Horse News*?"



CAROL HALL, WESTRIDGE FARM, CALGARY, AB "We have escaped all of the flooding down here, but just can't believe the amount of destruction. I really feel for all the people that have experienced losses."

"Things have not changed too

much on the farm. My dad, Ron, is now 81 and still is a going concern with no intention of slowing down. He still has his business and goes to the office every day, and then helps out at the barn on weekends. He is still helping me with the haying and most repairs. I board about 50 horses (including my own - 5 walkers and 3 warmbloods). This certainly keeps me busy. I am busy showing one of my warmbloods in dressage. (Above, a picture of us competing last winter)."

"Sarah and I ride the Walkers and enjoy the mountains and the trails. It is our quality time together. Sarah is working full time during the summer and is heading off to U of A in the fall. Our son Brad is living and working in Edmonton (and is fully launched from the nest!)."

BRENDA & LLOYD PITTS, OKOTOKS wrote, "Just thought I would let you know that we have sold both of our Walker mares. "Dixie's Hot Morning Mist" seemed really taken with her new owner, Jennifer Hughes. We wish Jen and Dixie many great adventures, and hope Jen has as much fun with Dixie as we have had over the years. "Uphill Lady By Chance" has gone to Tara Marsland. They have a 700 acre ranch and I am sure Lady will enjoy the ranch life. We wish Tara and Lady many great adventures as well, and know they will make great riding partners. We are so pleased that both the Walkers we have sold have gone to good homes. Would you please send Tara and Jen each a complimentary copy of the *WHN*?"

From BRENDA BAKER, TRIANGLE B TWH, CALGARY, "*Below* is a picture of Snappy's Lil Buddy taken at the Basic Equitation Course put by the Calgary City Police and Alberta Parks at Millarville this spring. Buddy has been used in Hinton for a few years and is now based in the Cypress Hills Provincial Park (west side). It was nice to see my 'old baby' by Toddy's Royal Bonanza and out of Jester's Snappy Lil. Not really 'little' any more!"



DR. MARK SLOAN, EDSON, wrote, "We brought home another Walker (number four from Vernon and Annie Roth in Fort Assiniboine) yesterday for our riding buddy friend. We then rode for three hours and the crew got along famously."

From J. GLENN ROBINSON, CALGARY, "Here is my renewal to *WHN* for another year. I do enjoy reading each issue to find out what everyone is doing. I still have my matched black four-horse Tennessee Walking Horse team but due to health problems, I haven't hitched them up yet this year. I hope it will happen this summer!"

I had a note from BOBBI TERRY, BAS-SANO, who was looking forward to going to the Gait from the Ground Up "Encore" clinic in May. She and Shamrock did attend - so how did it go, Bobbi?

BRITISH COLUMBIA NEWS

SANDY AMY, LONE BUTTE, writes, "We seem to have by-passed spring altogether here at SkyKeep - minus 7 C the morning of May 1st, then plus 27 C the afternoon of the 4th! We've had almost no rain either (completely missed the "month of the mud" and maybe have a tenth of standing water on the place that we normally do at this time. Hope I haven't cursed us in saying that and it decides to rain all through June! We sure could use rain anyway - the underbrush in the trees is very dry and we've already had three brush fires in the district that we know of."

"Life is taking a bit of a different tack for us now. I found myself retired at the end of November, about a year earlier than I'd planned. Both our old TWH, Boomer and our grey Stannie, Luna have gone to new homes where both are getting more use than they were with us. We are down to our original two TWH, Finally and Delite, and Gen's young Stannie, MerryAnne."

"Gen's met a new friend who used to have horses in her life and decided that situation was no longer acceptable; the two of them have been out for rides several times over the past weeks, using all three horses in rotation. Good for all of 'em!"

"I launched a new business last month, providing services to test water quality of the water wells so many of us depend on. In typical Cariboo fashion, the launch has been slow but the phone rings more each week. And I am so enjoying being home and no longer being required to do the Fort Mac commute. It's so much better to be able to give a horse a rub every day instead of only one week in three."



SUE LELLMAN, WOODHILL WALKERS, GRINDROD, writes, "June 8th and 9th, 2013 was the 16th year of the Interior Gaited Horse Show. Held at the IPE Fair Grounds in Armstrong, the judge was Christine Schwartz, well known for her expertise on Icelandics. It was well attended and here is a photo of some of the TWH riders and their "loot" - left to right, Ralph Livingston & Hank; Bill Roy & Willow's Benjamin; Brenda Mason & Pal; Mark Ralko & Rainy's Morning Star."

From WES BARTON, BAR TEN SPRINGS, LUMBY, "I'm working out in Saskatchewan, so there's not much riding for this summer...kinda sad, eh? Yes, renew my subscription and also I will buy a subscription for Dianne Brown, my buddy from Lumby. She is an excellent horsewoman and barefoot farrier who has been riding Walkers for a long time."

"I did get to the Mane Event and visited with Bill Roy there and at his new riding location north of Vernon. Hope to ride with him later in the summer on days off. Also got in a ten day ride and camp-out at the Churn Creek Grasslands near the Gang Ranch and Empire Valley in the south Chilcotin country. Had a fabulous time!"

I had a phone call from ROBERTA BREBNER, TSUNIAH WALKERS, WILLIAMS LAKE. She has a pretty palomino yearling colt from the old bloodline mare, Sage King's Moonglow. The colt is by her Heritage stallion, 'Opie' (NFF Society King's Opus). This young fellow has an unique pedigree, as well as eye-catching colour. According to all reports, he's a dandy!

JO-ANNE McDONALD, POUCE COUPE, sent me an article from the February 2013 issue of *Saddle Up*, put out by HCBC. It has a valuable article on a hormone protocol to get a mare to adopt an orphan foal. A good thing to have on file - just in case!

What Every Breeder Wants to Hear...

An unsolicited testimonial received by
Allen and Connie McKenzie of
Westhill Farms, Stony Plain, Alberta

Hi, My name is Maddy. 12 years ago your stallion Go Shaker Go and McLaren's Megan Rose had a chestnut foal that you named Westhills Shaker Beau. You sold him to a lady who gave him up at her stable, and then I bought him 10 years ago and still own him. He was two when I bought him and now he's 12. I bought him when I was 15, which seems so long ago...



We did 4-H together, then began the jumping circuit a few years ago and jumped up to 3 feet, 6 inches. Now he's my trail horse. I just wanted to update you on his progress. He is the most wonderful-natured horse with such a big heart. I love him very much (and he's very spoiled!).

I just wanted to let you know that it's amazing the temperament you bred. I would recommend you to anyone looking to buy a Walker.

Madeline McLean, Calgary Alberta



MANITOBA NEWS

From KEITH DOLL, DOUGLAS, "How time flies. Not long ago we had two feet of snow - now we're at the longest day of the year. The growing season has been fine so now we're into mowing and overgrazing to keep these horses from foundering! Flies are getting bad so that should cut back on their grazing time."

"I sold my big team, covered wagon and harness last summer; just kept my single harness and homemade cart. I haven't ridden since last fall. Mister 'Arthur' and his buddy 'Itis' have been playing havoc with my body. I don't think I could lift up a saddle, let alone get on a horse without a ladder. I'm still working half time at the hospital, mostly 12 hour shifts, so between that and keeping up at home, it pretty well saps my energy."

"However, all's not doom and gloom. I have my little old mare, Dakota Dusty Doll, back. I'd given her to Darlene Moore about three years ago, where she was greatly loved and cared for. Then last winter Darlene was diagnosed with cancer and had to spend six weeks in Winnipeg for radiation. I brought Dusty home to care for her. Dusty has been prone to grass founder ever since she was a yearling, so I have to be careful with her. She gets about two hours a day on grass and is doing fine. No soreness, no stiffness, and I have her feet trimmed into a semblance of okay. Being confined makes her very restless so, being the fine driver that she is, she's helping me check hay fields and pastures (soft footing). Dusty is 24 (about my age in horse years! But probably in better shape.)"

SASKATCHEWAN NEWS

I spoke with GALE ALLAN of STOUGHTON a while ago. She is cutting back on the number of TWH she raises, so has her stallion, Doubleplay Genius Edition, for sale. He has been siring good-natured, walky offspring for her. She took one of his colts, a four-year-old, I believe, to a Larry Surette clinic in Minnesota last year. These clinics are unique in that you go for three weeks and Larry guides you through training your own young horse. Gale said she felt comfortable riding this youngster once they'd completed the course.

MAVIS WALL, SASKATOON, wrote, "Hope your summer goes well and you haven't got too wet. We were lucky and didn't get flooded, but lots of people in the valley had their land flood. No houses."

NEWS from Our U.S. Subscribers

GRACE LARSON, FORSYTH, MT writes, "Our mare, Marigold, is now at rest. That was such a tough decision but once I made it and called the vet out, it was easier. She was so lame in her shoulder. Life wasn't enjoyable for her at all. She put her head in my chest like she was saying good-bye when she and I were waiting for the vet. It can sure be painful to love animals or people!"

"Our other Walker, Fawn, has really 'palled up' with the mare we board. She is from the Hairpin Ranch that had all the controversy over starving horses. Mr. Leachman was charged with animal cruelty. I haven't heard how that turned out. This mare is a 3-year-old blue roan quarter horse. I'm sure she was registered when Sharon bought her at the auction. But it costs anywhere from 300 to 500 dollars to even try to find out."

"After Sharon had a mishap while working with her she has just ignored her. Sapphire was trained to lead as a foal but never had anything else done. I work with Fawn and so do our neighbors; they pet her, etc. Sapphire has observed all of that and now I can curry her, do her mane and tail, and put Swat on her chest, udder, and in her ears. (The gnats are bad.) Horses learn so much by watching a person's actions with another horse. Sharon had been separating Sapphire and trying to work with her alone. I am sure that she will respond now that she has that trust. Sharon has been trying to donate her to a Parelli person who lives near Stevensville. I guess if they don't take her, she will give her to us. Fawn does need a companion, and once she passes due to age, our neighbor's daughter is into cutting horses, goat tying, etc. So we would just pass her on to them. A horse is an expensive gift though!"

"We miss the foals most of all! But our health just doesn't offer anything to a young foal."

"Lyle hasn't had any results from his three treatments at the pain clinic in Edina, MN. The next step would be surgery but he is 77 and that's so risky; especially when they can't say if it would help or not. He has so much pain when he walks and it can come on at any time. I have at least one more trip to Mayo in late Sept. or early Oct. I hope it is my last!"

"I will eventually get some more of Mom's old horse photos and history sent. The weeds really got ahead of us while we were in Minnesota for medical treatments. Lyle needs a lot of extra help nowadays but we both enjoy the garden, trees, and flowers. He raises beautiful roses, which brighten our days."

ONTARIO NEWS

A PARELLI WEEKEND in S. ONTARIO

From SUE GAMBLE, SWASTIKA:

Dave and I managed to find a horse sitter and slip away for a weekend in southern Ontario. We took in one day of the Parelli Horse and Soul Tour Event held in London Ontario on June 8th and 9th. Pat is quite the showman. His warmth and love for working with horses and people came through loud and clear, and I think that is his greatest strength. The show began with Pat doing a colt starting demo with a large warm blood which he introduced as a "Shetland pony" before the crowd saw the 17 hh youngster. He informed the audience that he did not know how far the colt starting would go as he would stop when he felt it was best for the horse, regardless of how much progress was made. You have to respect that attitude.

He ended up taking the young horse through some ground work to the saddling and mounting stage to a slow walk. All went well until a group of instructors filed into the arena. This proved too much for the youngster who had been relatively calm to that point. A bucking session resulted while Pat was on his back! The audience enjoyed verifying Pat's skill as a past bronc rider. Don't we all wish we could calmly ride that out! The youngster was no worse for wear and was scheduled for another training session the following morning.

The trailer loading demo was interesting too as the crowd voted for the young woman owner of the Hanoverian to load the horse herself with Pat's guidance instead of having Pat do the handling. Apparently this horse usually took hours and knew every trick on how NOT to load, which put a damper on taking him for trail rides (or any where else for that matter). The horse knew every trick in the book too for not getting onto a trailer, including rearing and breaking away. It took quite a while to build the horse's confidence and trust as Pat helped the owner put the horse through a series of obstacles, which included tarps, barrels, and a large rubber ball. It was obvious that the young woman had not done this kind of trust-building work with this horse before, which made it even more intriguing. In the end the horse calmly walked onto the trailer for its surprised owner.

Demos by Parelli Instructors were scheduled throughout, which went over very well with the crowd. Particularly, Ron Pyne from Ontario earned a big round of applause for his bridleless riding of the horse he was mounted on, while simultaneously controlling another horse at liberty. Very inspiring to see.

It was nice to meet up with clinicians Don and Randee Holladay from Alberta from whom we had taken or audited numerous clinics. And of course we said hello to clinician Fawn Anderson of B.C. and Florida. It was a great day and it would have been nice to see Sunday's show - but spending time with our grandson was far more important. It was, however, a thrill to see Pat and Linda Parelli live, at least once in this lifetime, on their rare trip to Canada.

KATHY MINOR, KARS, writes, "I was SO surprised to see Flicka's picture and my write-up on the first full page. Thank you so much for featuring her story! I have shown it to my friends at the barn and am amazed at the interest. The trainer who rode her for me made a photocopy of it for her mother who evidently collects everything to do with her daughter's riding life. The owner of the barn made a photocopy to post in the barn, and they want to put the story and picture on their website. Imagine! One little TWH mare causing all that excitement!"

"She is in great shape - weight is good, coat gleams, and she is a safe ride for lightweight riders. She has been ridden two times per week since we backed her. We went out today, my trainer friend and I. I was on my QH, who is Flicka's pasture mate and now very bonded buddy. We even split up and rode away from each other to see what would happen and Flicka didn't care at all. She is now SEMI retired! Kim Pringle will be very pleased. Flicka was one of Kim's Walkers."

"I have a good (*slim*) friend at the barn that I ride with, and her horse is off with an injury at the moment so she has been riding out with me on Flicka. Never having ridden a TWH before, she keeps telling everyone how wonderful it is when she trots! (Meaning *walks*) Today we went out on the property and although grassy, there is water everywhere because it has been raining off and on (mostly on) for weeks. My horses don't worry about water, but her horse doesn't go through it. Flicka quite happily splashed through everything - and that story is making the rounds as well. (She just goes through *everything*.) My little girl is a *Star*! How glad I am that I got her back!"

From ANGIE JANSEN, ZEPHYR, "We were 'shooting' all weekend at the Demo with the GHGO. Sharon and I were shooting (video) for our Basic Skills. I also put up a very short video of the mare, Misty that I'll be backing next week. I've been line driving her and I think she's ready, but I need to wait until I have someone home."

READERS WRITE on the 'CHAMPION' STORY

NATALIE SPECKMAIER, VANCOUVER, did quite a bit of internet research on the TWH 'Champions' owned by Gene Autry and here is what she found on one called LINDY CHAMPION.

- * Registered Tennessee Walking Horse
- * Gelding
- * Sorrel-colored
- * 4 white stockings
- * Oval topped blaze with a black dot on his nose
- * Made personal appearances
- * Born May 20, 1927, on the day of Charles Lindbergh's historic flight from New York to Paris, France
- * Highlights: made aviation history as the first horse to make a transcontinental flight from Burbank CA to New York; made personal appearance in Britain in 1939.

This is the picture that went with this text.



In the photo *below* the little guy must be Champion Jr., Autry's trick pony.



Natalie says, "There are so many conflicting stories on the various websites! (At least for Roy Rogers there was only Trigger (the Old Man) and Trigger Jr. (other than all the stunt doubles)."

SOME LIVING DESCENDANTS of 'Champion' Stonewall Allan:

From BRENDA BAKER, CALGARY: Here is a sweet picture (below) that I took of WILLIAMS KODIAK in May of this year when Amy Lauzon and I took a trip to Saskatchewan and stopped in at Lexie & Barry Cole's farm near Cabri. Amy has a number of Kodiak daughters but had never met the old boy. You can see he is enjoying every minute of the visit.



DIANE SCZEPAN-SKI, WHITE-HALL, WI sent this photo *right* of her stallion, NFF WILSON'S SOCIETY KING, whose dam is descended from Stonewall Allan.



ROBERTA BREBNER, WILLIAMS LAKE, BC phoned. She has a 'Champion' - Stonewall Allan line youngster also - Tsuniah Red Willsons Echo, out of Red Rock Evangelista, descended through Stonewall Allen's granddaughter Gold Duke's Lulu.

FRANNE BRANDON, PETERSBURG, TN writes, "I got a nice note from Betty Sain. She enjoyed the article on Stonewall Allen - whoever he was! Harry was watching an old B & W Gene Autry flick over the weekend. Riders of the Whispering Pines or some such title. In it Autry rides a horse with four stockings that appears to be a flax sorrel. This Champion looks like a Morgan, but he foxtrots. Gene's butt never leaves the saddle, and the horse, although trotting, is maintaining a decent clip, so it has to be a foxtrot. Don't think it's Stonewall because, from everything I have found, that horse was never in films."

ASK A TRAINER with BILL ROY

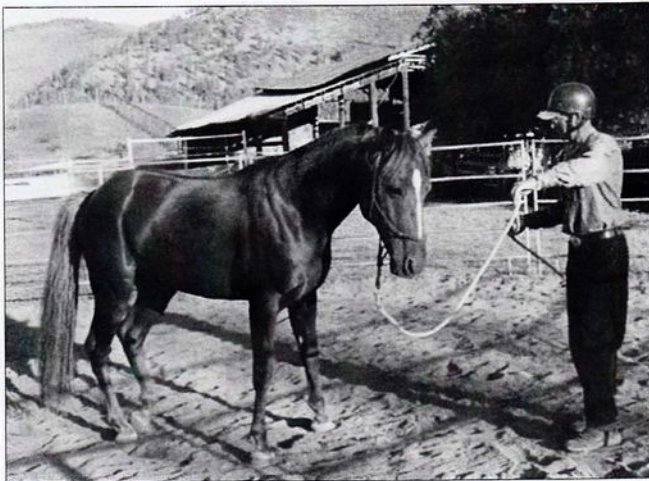
MY HORSE WON'T STAND FOR MOUNTING!

My friend has a nice mare that he can't use now because the person who started her did not teach standing for mounting. Is there anything we can do to overcome this problem?

Bill replies:

Having your horse stand is a part of its training. It is one of the very basics that a horse must know.

When starting a horse, the underlying principle is that it is either working - that is, "moving" - or doing what it is asked. (I could qualify this statement with, "it all depends", because when dealing with a live animal it's *always* "it all depends".) The result of the horse figuring out what I'm asking is that it quickly learns to stand still whenever it may, and then learns that standing quietly, thinking, (that is "the pause") gets rewarded with kind words and stroking.



There are a lot of things happening when a horse won't stand to be mounted, with a lot of possible causes and results. But the usual result is that you just don't ride. The causes may be that the horse never learned to stand in the first place, or perhaps you inadvertently re-taught it to move off. Horses are always learning. Just because they were trained to stand for mounting doesn't mean that you can't retrain them to move off whenever your foot comes near the stirrup.

When your horse is moving but you want it to stand still, you have the perfect opportunity to put it into training. The basic moves to start a horse are the same ones that teach him to stand. These moves have as much to do with your mental and emotional state and the amount and type of energy you are sending at



your horse, as they have to do with what and how you are asking. You must be calm, focused, and in the moment. You must be the leader. You have to have control of your energy. Anyone can learn the simple moves to asking the horse to move around them on a short lead off a halter, but the horse is not going to dance with you until he feels your energy is right.

Use the energy that the horse's movement is giving you to put it into training, and get it to do what you want. If the horse won't stand, you move it. Make it *your* idea to move with calm, deliberate purpose. Back it up, stand and move it around you on a line in a circle, at a calm walk; give it some rails to walk over, or a bridge. Turn the horse right, then left, turn the front end, disengage the back end. Disengaging the back end on the ground, just like in the saddle, takes the power and energy from the horse and he will stop. Do this again, calmly, evenly, repeatedly. Don't forget "the pause" - the break in movement where the horse tries to figure out what you want. When you do ask him to just stop and stand, maintain your focus and leadership but drop the energy. Work on this for no longer than you can maintain the feel, and pause for your own sake as well as the horse's. Keep your focus on the goal, "if you don't stand, I will move you where I want you to go."

This may seem like time away from riding, but you end up with a much better horse. Your horse will be lighter to the rein. A better understanding and partnership is developed, watching and working with your horse in this way. It can also show you problems with right or left sidedness, tack issues, or physical problems.

The joy of riding your horse is well worth taking the time to teach it to stand.

Bill

GENERIC LIQUID IVERMECTIN

Collaboration between Alberta Agriculture, Alberta Livestock and Meat Agency, Alberta Veterinary Labs, and Horse Industry Association of Alberta has led to the formulation of a generic liquid Ivermectin dewormer, called "Ivermectin Liquid for Horses". In May 2013, the product was registered by the Veterinary Drugs Directorate for use in horses. The process took over three years to complete the research and trials.

The generic product is manufactured in Calgary and is currently available through veterinary clinics and over the counter at local feed and tack stores. It is available in three different forms: a 15 mL syringe, 60 mL bulk bottle, and a 120 mL bulk bottle. It is administered orally, either directly into the mouth with a syringe or top dressed on grain and fed to the horse. Since it is a water-based product, horses will eat it when it's added to sweet feed. "This is great news for horses that have been a problem to deworm," states Merle Olson of Alberta Veterinary Labs.

Horse owners can look forward to significant savings. Treatment with a brand name dewormer imported into Canada costs horse owners between \$15-\$30 dollars. Ivermectin Liquid for Horses will be available for a quarter of the cost, at around \$5 for an average 500 kg horse.

"Until recently a manufacturing plant of large volume sterile and non-sterile veterinary pharmaceuticals did not exist in Canada, creating a situation where these products had to be imported from other countries outside of Canada," states Olson. "The lack of domestic manufacturing lead to artificially inflated pharmaceutical prices for Alberta livestock producers, but also the loss of jobs and revenue generation here in Alberta."

"It is expected that the costs of deworming horses will also decrease as it did when these same people came out with the similar cattle product over eighteen months ago," says Les Burwash Manager of Horse Programs with Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development. "This is a good news story about a local pharmaceutical manufacturing company's success and the horse industry having its first product licensed for use in all horses, including those entering the food chain."

The withdrawal time for the Ivermectin Liquid for Horses is 14 days. It is the only drug for horses in North America that has a withdrawal time.

"We are very thankful for the funding provided by the Alberta Livestock and Meat Agency, which enabled this product to be produced by Alberta Veterinary Labs; it will benefit all horse owners," says Robyn Moore, Manager of Horse Industry Association of Alberta.

Contact: Robyn Moore, Manager, Horse Industry Association of Alberta. Phone: 403-420-5949
rmoore@albertahorseindustry.ca ,
www.albertahorseindustry.ca

EQUINE CHIROPRACTORS

I had an inquiry from a reader about finding a good horse chiropractor so I asked Dr. Mark Sloan of Edson Chiropractic about this.

Here's what he says, "Ideally you want someone well educated, a Chiropractor or Veterinarian, who has taken the Equine Chiropractic course AND is treating a large number of horses so that they are proficient at their craft. There is a website where your reader can find such a person at www.veterinarychiropractic.ca/graduates.htm."

"She will at least see who is legitimately qualified. I am sure there are others who are not on this website but they will be harder to find."

LEARN ABOUT EQUINE GENETICS

There is a new course at University of Guelph, ON. 'Equine Genetics' will help students understand the biological basis of genetics; how genes and traits are passed from parents to offspring; how traits controlled by only one or two genes are inherited, and single gene genetic disorders that have been identified in horses. The course will also examine gene action pertaining to performance traits, as well as nature versus nurture aspects of performance.

The instructor is Dr. Diane Winkelman-Sim, an Equine Science lecturer at the University of Saskatchewan. The 12 week on-line course is part of the Equine Science certificate program, which will be offered this fall at U. of Guelph.

For more information call 519-767-5000
or email info@opened.uoguelph.ca

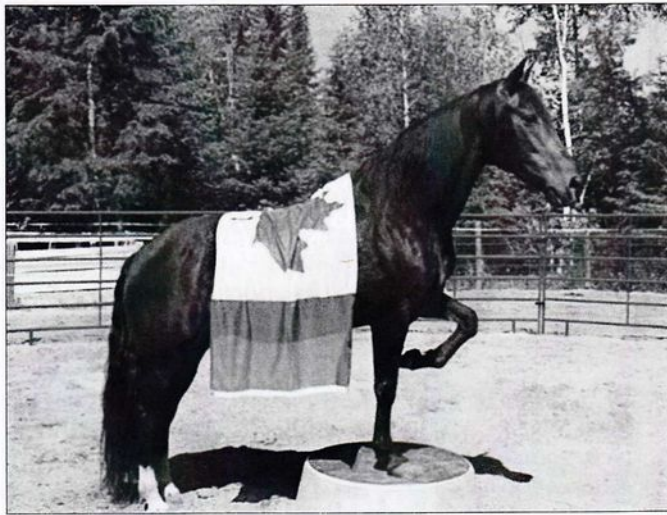
MORE ALBERTA NEWS

Karla Freeman, Ponoka, writes, "Hello, Fellow Walking Horse Fans! I visited some of my horses that I sold a couple of years ago. It is so nice to see them happy and content in their new homes. I should take a tour and go to see them *all*. That would take some time, but the only way it would work is if *everyone* transferred the papers on to the next buyer. I know situations change, and horses go to different homes. But at least then the horse could be tracked down to its new owner. I do have some horses for sale yet, so pass the word on if you know of anyone looking."

"Unfortunately I was unable to make it down to the Calgary Stampede, to share Roy with a bunch of people. I hope to get to the mountains a few times this year so... see you on the trails. Happy days!"

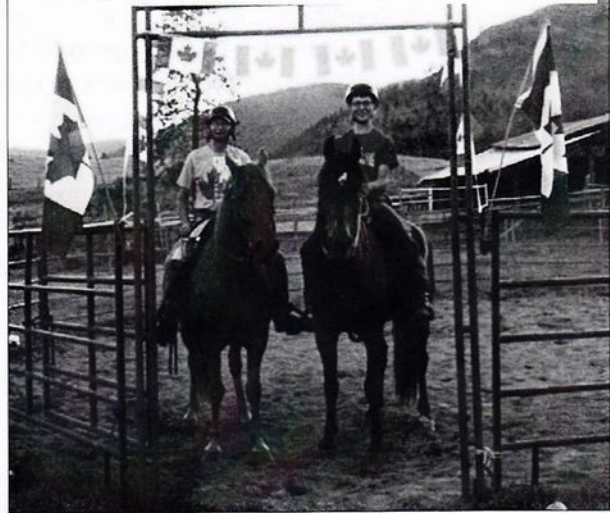
What Did YOU Do With Your Walkers on Canada Day ?

Here's what these folks did...



Sue Gamble's Dixie's Chocolate Fix stands proudly to attention.

Bill Roy on Ben & Matt on Trooper, under the flags.



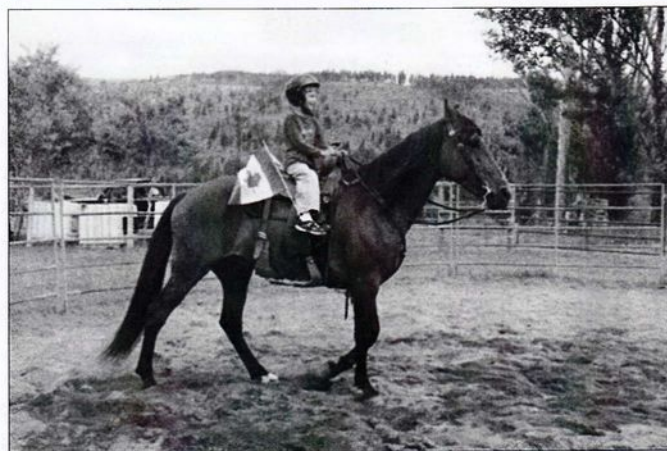
Left: Karen Barker and Diamond Snipper pose with the flag.



Below right: Erika Kobza and her Maplea doll, Brianne, enjoy a Canada Day ride on Major's Mys'y Baby.

Below left: Tommy, Bill Roy's grandson, had fun riding Trooper, the Ultimate Canadian Horse.

Far left: Brenda Woodall riding 'Grace' - Proud to be Canadian!





The Canadian Walker

Volume 12, Issue 4

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August, 2013

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CRTWH TRIPLE CHALLENGE - The Training Levels & Program For Excellence

Deadline for entries is October 31/13. If you have video of your Walker for either the Bronze, Silver or Gold (or any two or three of the levels) of the PROGRAM FOR EXCELLENCE, or for one or more TRAINING LEVELS in **THE CANADIAN TRIPLE CHALLENGE**, please send it to Dianne Little, 619 Lake Linnet Cres. S.E., Calgary, AB T2J 2J3. For more info email treasurer@crtwh.ca or phone **403-271-7391**.

The **CANADIAN TRIPLE CHALLENGE** replaced 'The Canadian' Futurity. The Program For Excellence gives you the opportunity to have a FOSH certified judge assess your horse for conformation, movement and temperament for only \$30 per level, \$45 if you submit video for two levels, or \$60 if you want all three levels assessed from the same video. This is a valuable tool for breeders to improve their stock.

The Training Levels gives you the opportunity to train your horse in a step-by-step fashion and have its progress recorded, assessed and recognized. See www.crtwh.ca

Dianne Little

STAMPEDE TWH BOOTH

Despite flooding and dire conditions in much of Calgary, the tradition that "The Show Must Go On" prevailed. Less than a week after that devastation hit the city, the 101st Stampede began. We were setting up late Thursday night and parade morning.

1.1 million people attended the Stampede and had the opportunity to see the Walking Horse booth and demos. Our horses were a big hit with the public, very well mannered and great in the booth, meeting people from all over the world.

The horses were there from 9 am to 8 pm as part of Horse Haven, the horse section of the agricultural display. We had eight CRTWH members and six Walkers volunteer in the booth, with the horses performing in a number of demos in the Northern Lights Arena as well. A big 'thank-you' to all who gave their time and efforts to make the TWH booth a success.

Hilton Hack

NEW ITEMS ON WEBSITE

Check out www.crtwh.ca for Grace Larson's histories of many well known Montana TWH. Grace has donated her High Plains Walkers website to CRTWH so the many histories she researched will still be available to those interested in the stories of early TWH in the West.

Marjorie Lacy

Our FaceBook Page (www.facebook.com/crtwh)

is now closing in on 300 'likes'.

Join up with us on Face book if you haven't already.

See our CRTWH Stallion Albums, our CRTWH 2013 Foal Book, the many Timeline Photos, and other fun albums.

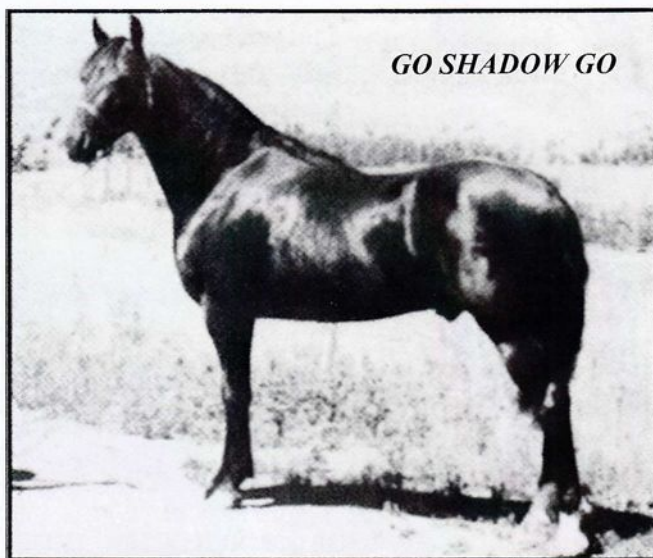
Join the conversation!

Sue Gamble

ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION IN HORSES

I had a query about artificial insemination from a reader who lives where there are few TWH stallions. So I asked Carol Hall of Westridge Farm, Calgary, AB for information, since they have experience with this. Below is Carol's note.

Here is some information that I remember about my experience with AI in horses. It began when Helen (Williamson) wanted to store semen from Go Shadow Go, with the dream of sending semen to mares anywhere in the world for breeding. I think the first hurdle she faced was having the foals from a breeding of this nature recognized by the registry. The collection and storage of the semen was the easy part! She worked with Dr. Wayne Burwash and managed to get one live foal on the ground. I believe that was in the late 80's or early 90's. The semen that she collected from our stallion Go Shadow Go dates back to 1983. I have about 3 breedings left using Shadow's semen. We did collect from Shaker (Shaker's Royal Heir), but unfortunately his semen had very little motility and thus it could not be used.



GO SHADOW GO, above from a 1995 WHN ad for Westridge Farms that offers "Frozen semen available for breeding your mares AT HOME".

The semen that was collected from Shadow is frozen. This means that we can ship it long distances and that it can be stored for long periods ("forever"). However the conception rate is lower than if cooled semen is used.

When Helen passed away in 2000, my dad requested that we attempt another foal using the frozen semen from Shadow. This process began in 2003. We tried to impregnate two mares that summer. The

mares spent about 10 days at the breeding station while the vets worked at bringing them into season and then used the frozen semen to inseminate. Both mares did not take the first time around and we had to wait a cycle and then send them back for another round. Out of this whole process one mare 'took' and we were so excited! The cost to do this was about \$3000.00 per mare for the two attempts. So you can see that this is an expensive process. I certainly was thrilled to have a live foal from Go Shadow Go 20 years after the semen was collected. I sold him last year to a lovely lady named Gail Fuller and she has said that she is really enjoying him. *Below, Sarah with the chestnut foal, 'Bernie', that resulted from the frozen semen breeding in 2003. His dam was Gift's Magic Dream.*



I know that I am not interested in A.I. breeding again, but I've kept the semen and would certainly entertain the idea of selling it to someone that may be interested in trying AI. *I think that the most important part of the whole process is finding a breeding station/vet clinic that has had experience with frozen semen and is willing to take your mare.*

I have included some info from Dr. Burwash's clinic on the use of frozen and cooled semen, which follows.

Carol Hall

Breeding AI with Fresh, Cooled Semen

This typically involves the mare and stallion in different regions. An order for a semen shipment is placed when the mare has a breedable sized follicle. This usually involves daily palpations or ultrasounds by a veterinarian while the mare is in heat. Semen is ordered, the stallion is collected and semen is shipped via FedEx, Greyhound or other courier depending on the mare's origin.

General Comments:

- ✪ Don't expect a stallion to "fix" the faults in your mare or vice versa.
- ✪ Spend some time researching a prospective stallion for your mare. Talk to breeders as well as trainers in your chosen discipline – see what's working.
- ✪ Make sure your mare is in good breeding condition. This includes up-to-date vaccinations and deworming as well as the mare being in good body condition.
- ✪ Track your mare's cycle – mark it on the calendar. This will save you time and money in the long run.

Some Questions You Should Ask:

- ✪ What is the stallion's semen motility both at the time of collection as well as 24 and 48 hours later? Semen coming from the USA will take a minimum of 24 hours. What are the conception rates with their stallion's shipped, cooled semen?
- ✪ How many breeding doses of semen will they be sending us? We prefer to get two breeding doses if possible in case the mare does not ovulate when expected.
- ✪ What type of container do they ship the semen in – disposable or blue equitainer? If it's in a blue equitainer then you need to ask who pays for the return of it. Most farms will want their equitainer returned ASAP which can cost anywhere from \$150 to \$250.
- ✪ How do they ship the semen – courier, air, bus? USA farms will use a FedEx overnight service, while Canadian farms will typically use Greyhound or an airline. The breeding farm will need an address to ship to. In most cases, when the mare is staying at Burwash Equine Services, the semen is delivered directly to the clinic. We can provide you with the correct shipping address as needed.
- ✪ As of spring 2009, there are new government regulations regarding CEM. Semen coming from the USA requires a health exam of the stallion and extra documentation from a USDA veterinarian, which involves added shipping and handling costs to you, the mare owner. **Talk to the stallion owner about the CEM regulations** – they should be able to give you an estimate of the additional costs and extra time involved.

USE OF FROZEN SEMEN IN THE MARE

There are many advantages and disadvantages to using frozen semen in horses depending on each individual's situation. As well, the costs will vary considerably depending on the individual stallion and the availability of expertise and accommodation of the mare. Therefore there are no two situations that are alike. The following is a brief outline of what are generally the pros and cons for the use of frozen semen and some guidelines for the costs involved.

ADVANTAGES

1. Access to semen from stallions from everywhere in the world.
2. If long distances are involved, it is cheaper to ship the semen to the mare, than to transport the mare, and possibly the foal, to the stallion.
3. Avoiding long distance transportation reduces the stress on the mare and the foal and thus reduces the chances of disease.
4. The cost of a single shipment of frozen semen generally will be more than a shipment of cooled semen but with frozen semen one shipment of multiple doses is usually all that is necessary, whereas multiple shipments are often necessary with cooled semen.
5. The breeding season can continue even if the stallion is at a performance event, ill, injured or unavailable due to other breeding commitments.
6. Compared with cooled transported semen, there is no need to have the mare's ovulation timed with the days that a shipment is available. Frozen semen can be stored at the breeding farm and used whenever the time is right to breed the mare.
7. Frozen semen can be kept "forever". Therefore it can be collected and stored in the off-season and used whenever needed during the breeding season. It can also be used after the stallion is dead or gelded, if the breed registry permits.
8. The cost of processing frozen semen is variable, but for the average horse, the cost per insemination dose of frozen semen is usually less than cooled semen.

DISADVANTAGES

1. Generally, conception rates are lower with frozen semen compared to both live cover and cooled shipped semen. The conception rates with most frozen semen is at least 10%

less than with other methods, all other factors being equal.

2. Conception rates with frozen semen are improved if insemination is timed as close as possible to ovulation. Therefore more intensive management, sometimes including palpations or ultrasounds three or four times a day, is required to handle and breed a mare with frozen semen. This will increase the cost of getting the mare bred when compared to cooled semen and live cover. However, depending on many other factors, including the availability of semen and the cost per insemination dose, the total cost of getting a mare pregnant can be comparable with cooled semen. Each case has to be analyzed individually to determine which method is the best choice.
3. More expertise and equipment is required to freeze semen on a stallion and to breed a mare compared to other techniques. A liquid nitrogen tank is required to store frozen semen and thawing frozen semen is more technical than handling cooled semen.
4. Frozen semen tends to cause more inflammation in the mares uterus, potentially leading to reduced conception rates and infection in susceptible mares.

PROTOCOL AND COSTS INVOLVED IN USE OF FROZEN SEMEN

Although we vary our protocol considerably when managing mares that are to be bred with frozen semen, we generally use one of two protocols. The first method is called "timed breeding" where two doses of semen are most often used. With this method, the mare's cycle is followed daily, when her follicle becomes 35-mm. or greater, HCG is given. The mare is rechecked for ovulation with the ultrasound in 24 hours. If she has ovulated then she is bred. If she has not ovulated she is usually bred in 6 to 12 hours and then again in another 12 to 14 hours if she has not ovulated at the 30 to 36 hour examination. HCG will most often induce ovulation between 30 and 44 hours. Our goal with this protocol is to be breeding between 12 hours before ovulation and 6 hours after ovulation.

The second method is called "breeding to ovulation", where only one dose of semen is required, and our goal is to breed within 6 hours of ovulation. Again we follow the cycle and when the follicle reaches 35-mm., we give HCG. The mare is rechecked in 24 hours and then every 8 hours after

that until she ovulates. Once she has ovulated, she is bred.

The disadvantage of this method is that it involves up to 3 palpations/ultrasounds per day, and therefore, usually costs more than the timed breeding. The advantages of this method are that: 1) only one dose of semen is required; and 2) because insemination is most often closer to ovulation, the conception rates tend to be slightly higher. This is particularly true if the semen quality is low. Timed breeding is usually the choice if, 1) two doses of semen are available, 2) the semen is good quality, and 3) the cost of using two doses is not prohibitive.

As with all well-managed mare breeding programs, both methods usually involve the use of daily teasing; some hormone therapy to induce a predictable heat and a properly timed ovulation; and frequent rectal/ultrasound examinations to determine the time of ovulation. Because of the need for more frequent examinations, both protocols usually cost more than breeding with cooled semen. Frozen semen is quite irritating to the lining of uterus; therefore oxytocin is given 4 to 8 hours post-breeding to empty the uterus of any excess semen.



WALKING HORSE JOURNAL CEASES PUBLICATION

ALLANNA JACKSON, EDITOR, *WALKING HORSE JOURNAL*, writes, "We are sad to report that due to a shortage of subscribers, it has become necessary to discontinue publication of *Walking Horse Journal* with the May 2013 issue, which completed Volume 12."

"Thank you to all who subscribed. We've appreciated your interest in the unique articles and information that *Walking Horse Journal* has presented over the past 12 years. We are especially grateful to all our contributors who have so generously shared their knowledge, ideas and experience."

"We're in the process of making all issues of the *Walking Horse Journal*, or as many as possible, available on the WHJ website as downloadable PDFs. I'm converting them to color too, as much as possible. We're posting PDF files of the front cover and each entire issue. To read the whole issue it's a \$2 per issue fee to download the PDF."

"We have enjoyed serving you and producing the *Walking Horse Journal*."



FOAL CALL



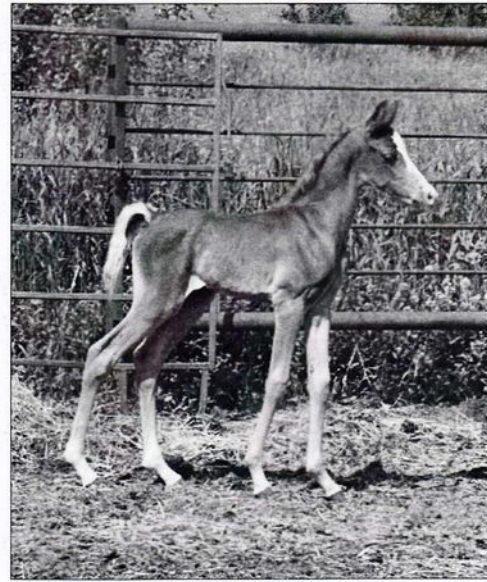
BAY FILLY (Canadian Shaker x High Hopes 'N Dreams DFS)
Four white socks and a star.

BLACK COLT (Canadian Shaker x Sage King's Black Beauty).
Another of those interesting 'tan with stripes'
colts that turn black. Born June 9th.

SILVER DAPPLE COLT (Sure Silver x Shaker's Gemini) He is
that strange color that all the SDs have had so far. Foaled June 19.

Photo right.

McDonald Farms, Pouce Coupe, BC.



BUCKSKIN FILLY
(Uphill Heir Trigger
x Uphill Sand'N
Sable) Born July 8,
with a tiny crescent
on her forehead.
Marjorie Lacy,
Uphill Farm, Edson, AB

CHESTNUT FILLY (*photo left*)

(Kit's Royal Pride x This Ones 4 U Lexie Cole) born May 21
(2 weeks earlier than expected) - Pride is now 27 years old.
I guess never *too* old! **Amy Lauzon, Cayley, AB**

THIS IS WHAT A GENUINE SYNCHROGAIT CERTIFICATE LOOKS LIKE!

ART SCOPICK, CMEGO Stables,
CLYDE, Alberta writes,
"I am sending you a copy of an
original, genuine Synchronait
certificate.

There seems to be a lot of interest
and comments on the subject.
Eldon Eadie even suggests that
you ask for this certificate or
don't breed to the stallion.

I think you should run this
on the front cover so
everyone can see what the
certificate looks like, so
that they will not get
caught with an imitation!"


UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS

VETERINARY GENETICS LABORATORY
SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
ONE SHILTON AVENUE
DAVIS, CALIFORNIA 95616-8734

TELEPHONE: (530) 752-2211
FAX: (530) 752-3596

SYNCHROGAIT TEST RESULT

ART SCOPICK BOX 340 CLYDE, ALBERTA T0G0P0 CANADA	Case: NQ21245 Date Received: 30-Apr-2013 Report Date: 01-May-2013 Report ID: 2548-0258-0144-7002 Verify report at http://www.ucdavis.edu/veterinary/genetics/verify
Name: EBONY'S BIG EASY DOB: 07/12/2005 Breed: TW Sex: S Ab: ED Reg: 10600045	
Sire: DONMAR'S PERFECTION Reg: 10001465/04/04	
Dam: MEADOWVIEWS MAGIC DANCER Reg: 10000708/04/01	



AA: Horse has two copies of the variant that has a major impact on gait and coordination of leg movement. Horse has innate ability to perform additional gaits. Training and other genetic factors contribute to overall quality of gait.

For more information on Synchronait test, see
<http://www.capietgenetics.com/en/start>

Synchronait is performed under license from Capiet Genetics.

CELEBRATE THE MEMORIES:

THE CHILDHOOD WORLD OF AMIE BOYD MARKS by Franne Brandon

The early twenty-first century is a fast-paced era marked by almost instant communication and technological improvements that continue to amaze. It is difficult at times to remember that just forty years ago a phone call home from the university dormitory required sharing a pay phone to use an expensive long distance phone service. Unless a person approaches life from a historical perspective, it can be more difficult to imagine living without what are now considered the basic amenities of a cell phone, internet access, and wide screen televisions. In the 1930's, however, life in rural Middle Tennessee moved at a slow pace. A telephone, if a home had one, were often party lines. Not all homes even had electricity. Horses were still ridden as transportation, still pulled buggies in the streets, and also, if needed, worked to plows to turn a garden or make a crop. Yet if these were the gentle plantation saddle horses, they could also serve as entertainment in a time when money was scarce, but many families owned saddle horses.

Young Amie Boyd grew up in this era when the effects of the Great Depression were still in evidence and creative Tennesseans looked for ways to use the bounty of their situations for recreation when time came to relax and enjoy life a little. Amie herself rode a trotting pony, but those she rode with in general had plantation horses, often ones registered with the new Tennessee Walking Horse Association of Tennessee after its organization in 1935. Amie remembers that "Everyone in Shelbyville had a walking trail horse that they rode on a trail ride and showed on the weekends. Every Sunday afternoon, there was a Ride-a-Thon. We left from someone's farm and rode for three to four hours.

Sometimes it was a sponsored ride, where

"Ride by The Light of The Moon"

Join the Big Cavalcade of Horsemen and their Ladies on
THE WORLD'S FIRST MOONLIGHT RIDATHON AND
OLD FASHIONED FISH FRY

Monday, June 17, 1940, Shelbyville, Tenn.

Meet Tate Field 3:30 p. m., "Boots and Saddles" at 4:15 sharp;
arrive picnic grounds 6:30 One hour for supper, entertainment,
horsemanship contests. Ride back to Tate Field over beautiful
Horse Mountain trail by moonlight.

SOUVENIRS — PRIZES — FUN

For further information call W. J. McGILL, president Bedford
Bridle Trail Association.

they rode to a church where the church ladies fixed food and drink and the riders paid for the meal."

Riding came naturally to the Boyd family. Her father, Franklin Boyd, had been a United States Cavalry captain during the Great War. Her parents had courted on horseback. The family enjoyed the Ride-A-Thons, riding in parades, and competing on the tanbark, but they were not breeders involved in raising the horses that they selected for their trail companions.

In 1939, various gentlemen who were active in the civic clubs of Shelbyville, where the Boyds lived, were brainstorming for a way for those clubs to earn the money for their various community projects all at one time. Franklin Boyd was among those looking for a way to accomplish this goal. Amie remembers hearing various stories about how festivals in other counties were mentioned, and one member of the Bedford County group came up with the idea of a festival to promote the Tennessee Walking Horse, which had its origins in their county along with several others in the area. The men who heard the proposal about a walking horse festival accepted the idea as one with merit, and thus began preparations for what would be the first Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration.

With the internet some five decades in the future, those advertising the new festival had to work hard to inform horse lovers in surrounding areas about the upcoming big show. Franklin Boyd, William Parker, Phillip Scudder, and Clyde Tune, four of the original board members, mailed out stacks of entry lists, purchasing the postage out of their own pockets. Scudder, an engineer, would later lay out the show grounds. In addition to the letters with show bills mailed out, handbills at feed and tack stores and advertisements in newspapers announced the upcoming show.

Amie remembers that children were still out of school for the harvest season, so they were recruited to help out at the various civic club booths. Those coming in from a distance to view or to compete at the new show stayed either at the Dixie Hotel or in private homes where owners rented out their guest rooms to accommodate the influx of visitors to Shelbyville.

In the spirit of a true festival, the first walking horse celebration featured more than just classes in the show ring. There was a big parade through the

streets of Shelbyville and around the courthouse square. A queen and her court were chosen to preside over the festivities. "Free Acts" like those that were popular at the county fairs provided additional entertainment, and Amie remembers Indian attacks as a dramatization within the show ring. All of these added more appeal to the first walking horse festival, but the stars of the hour were the horses. Designed to appeal to a broad range of equine talent, the show bill featured classes not only for Tennessee Walking Horses, but for three and five gaited American Saddle Horses, common in the region at the time.

The three day show was a resounding success. The football field of the high school on Union Street became a show grounds, with temporary

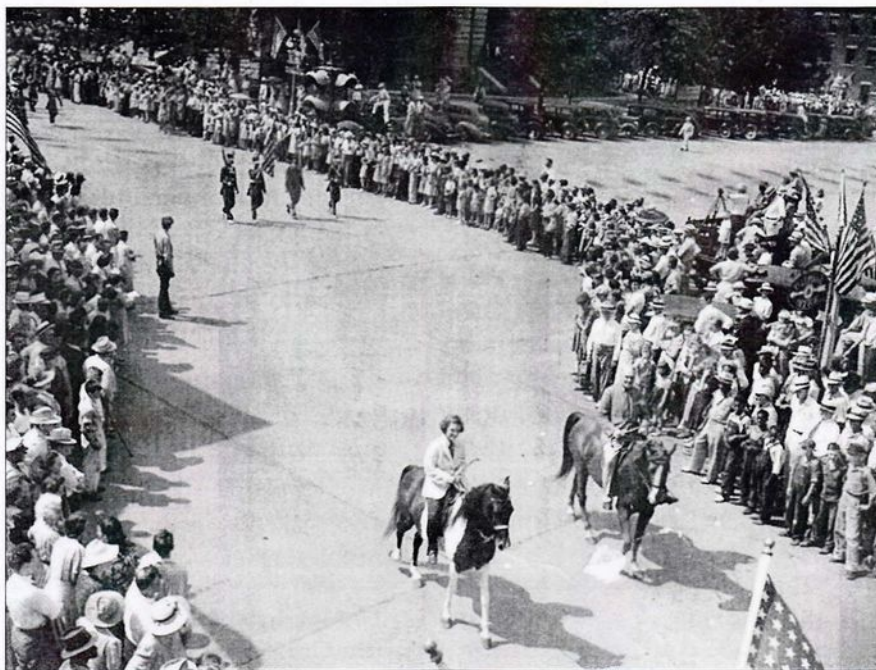
railings for the ring and temporary stalls for the horses. Amie remembers people standing ten deep around the rail as the classes progressed through the three days and nights of competition. She smiled in recalling, "Back then, there wasn't much else to do."

The success of the initial Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration and its crowning of World Grand Champion Strolling Jim with Floyd Caruthers riding inspired continuation of the tradition the following summer. The men in charge proceeded in a financially conservative manner. Amie remembers that they sold box seats for five years in order to obtain operational funds. They did not purchase the land for a permanent new show ground on Madison Street until they had enough cash in accounts to do so. The show continued to be held on the high school football field while school was out for the summer (harvest) session. World Grand Champions Haynes Peacock, Melody Maid, Black Angel, and City Girl were crowned in a temporary ring that would host football games in a few weeks. Then two black stallions stepped inside the portable ring and changed

the history of the breed, even as construction was underway for a permanent facility to house the show and its equine competitors. Amie Boyd saw them compete. She relates that "Midnight Sun had his head set up, he was using himself, you could hear him coming...boom...boom...boom." But she admits "I liked Merry Go Boy too. Those were two different kinds of horses that separated the breed into smaller, fine horses and larger, more powerful horses." When the new Celebration arena was completed in 1948, Merry Go Boy was the first World Grand Champion to wear the roses in its oval railings.

Young Amie was active in the show ring during all these years. She did not compete with walking horses, but only exhibited in walking pony, 5

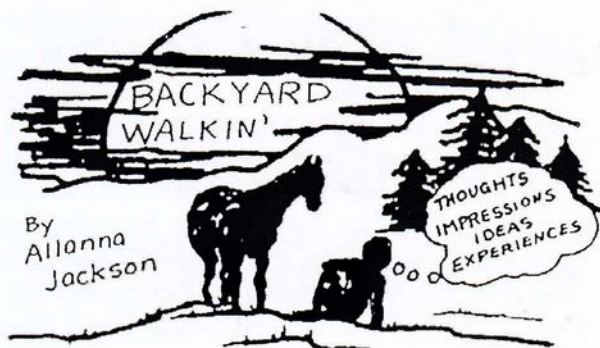
-gaited pony, and fine harness American Saddlebred pony rings. She remembers those early walking horse champions from a quieter period in history as horses that did a comfortable gait, family horses that everyone could ride. Her opinion is that the breed experienced such a surge in



popularity that people sold their good riding horses to take advantage of the unheard of prices which they could command. A decade later, those who had not sold experienced the depressed market which almost singlehandedly destroyed the breed. Through that depressed market, the show which her father and others in the civic clubs of Bedford County had brought to life continued to prosper and achieve the purpose for which it had begun.

Caption, hand written on the above old photo says, "Crossing the square during a Shelbyville parade. Kate and Franklin Boyd on horses."

The author would like to thank Mrs. Amie Boyd Marks of Shelbyville, who participated in that very first Celebration, for her time and patience in responding to questions which I have had for a number of years.



MUSINGS ON the GENETICS OF GAIT

by Allanna Lea Jackson

Crossing trotters with pacers seems to be the oldest breeding method/theory for producing easy gaited horses, though what gait(s) you get out of this cross seems to be variable. The partial pedigree we have for Bald Stockings, first horse noted for the running walk, looks like 75% Pacer - 25% Thoroughbred (trot), but because of the repeated mixing of trot and pace we don't know how much trotting blood was in the Pacers in his ancestry. Of course, we'll never know what Bald Stocking's gait genotype was. I've noticed in my research that quite a few of the best running walkers recorded in TWH history were 25% to 50% crossbred to what are often classified as "trotting" horses, yet most of those were crosses to breeds also known to have gait. So again we have no way of knowing what the gait genotype of the Walkers was.

Back in the mid-1980's there was a discussion/debate in Cristine Holt's *Walking Way* magazine about whether a pacer x trotter cross produced running walk or not. Some insisted that trot x pace is the way to produce running walk and it worked every time, while other people wrote in saying they'd tried it and got nothing but trot. We don't know which horses were involved in these various trot x pace breedings and most, if not all of them, are probably dead now so we can't find out their gait genotype. It's my observation, from the few crossbreds I've seen, that crossing trot with pace sometimes produces gait and sometimes doesn't, which implies differences in the gait genotype of the horses involved in the crossbreeding.

Despite the notion that was floated back in

the 1990's about all the various 4-beat gaits being, "one complete gait," it's easy to prove real physical differences among 4-beat gaits and that they are NOT all the same thing.

In my gait research over the last 30 years I have identified at least 13 physically distinct 4-beat middle gaits, differentiated by timing, weight support, weight transfer and/or counterbalance, not style. Thus even if it turns out that one mutated amble/rack/pace gene really is the only variant needed to allow 4-beat intermediate gaits, there must be other genetic mutations involved in at least some of them.

For example, the termino of the Peruvian Paso occurs at all gaits including the two universal gaits, walk and gallop. This suggests there is probably some physical difference in the attachment of the muscles, tendons and ligaments in the horses' shoulders. Such a difference must be the result of genetic mutation since it has proven to be hereditary and has been intensified by selective breeding.

The extreme leg-speed and toe-first set down of the hooves that is the distinctive movement of Paso Finos is something they do at all gaits, including walk and gallop. This too is hereditary and has been intensified by selective breeding. It's probably a genetic mutation in the nervous system that controls leg turnover rate. The toe-first set-down is considered a fault in all other breeds because it usually results in stumbling so why can Finos use toe-first set-down without stumbling? Again the answer is probably a genetic mutation in the nervous system, but is the extreme leg speed and coordination of toe-first set down created by only one genetic mutation or several?

The ability to self-correct for a specific timing in 4-beat middle gait is very rare. It is also not limited to even timing. The last horse Lee Ziegler bred was a pure-gaited Foxtrotter. She raised the gelding from birth and foxtrot was the only middle gait she ever saw that horse do. The fact that a few gaited horses are consistent in gait both at liberty and when ridden without specific gait training indicates this is genetic, yet self-correction for a specific 4-beat gait is probably the rarest gait behavior there is.

The fact that the descendants of self-correcting horses do not all inherit the self-correcting gait behavior indicates it's not a simple dominant, single gene trait, nor a simple recessive that can be made homozygous to make it breed true. We won't get the information on what's different about the genetics of the gaited horses that are self-correcting for only one middle gait until and unless the researchers get DNA data from such horses.

Last I knew the researchers are only looking at trot, pace and 4-beat gait; not yet making any distinctions among the various 4-beat gaits. Last time I checked, Cornell University had not yet posted the standards they were using to identify which 4-beat gait is which.

Here's another puzzle for the gait researchers - why does homozygosity for gait allow 4-beat gait + pace but only rarely produces pure-gaited pacers? Part of the answer is simple physics. Pure lateral support is inherently unstable so any variation in the ground surface causes Pacing horses to split the pace into a 4-beat movement to maintain their balance. There are reports of a few pure-gaited pacers in TWH ancestry, one of them being the Canadian Pacer Pacing Pilot.

Researchers reported finding the gait gene in 100% of the Standardbreds they tested, both trotters and pacers. This appears to be the basis for linking the gait gene with causing a delay in breaking to the gallop, thus assuming the synchrogait gene is the speed in intermediate gait gene.

I've owned TWH who did running walk and other 4-beat intermediate gaits, who could not rack nor pace, that broke to canter at only 7-8 mph. I've also owned TWH that could both rack and pace yet broke to canter at only 9-10 mph. What's the genetic difference between them and the Standardbreds that can trot or pace 25 mph before breaking to gallop?

An easily overlooked part of the report on the mutated gene for gait is just one sentence about the researchers concluding that the gait gene allows more flexibility in the horse's spine. Linking increased flexibility in the spine to the ability to do non-diagonal gaits matches perfectly with what people like Lee Ziegler and horses like my Velvet prove about the physical connection between the posture the horse uses and which gait it does. Adjusting the horse's posture to adjust gait has a genetic basis and therefore really is the most

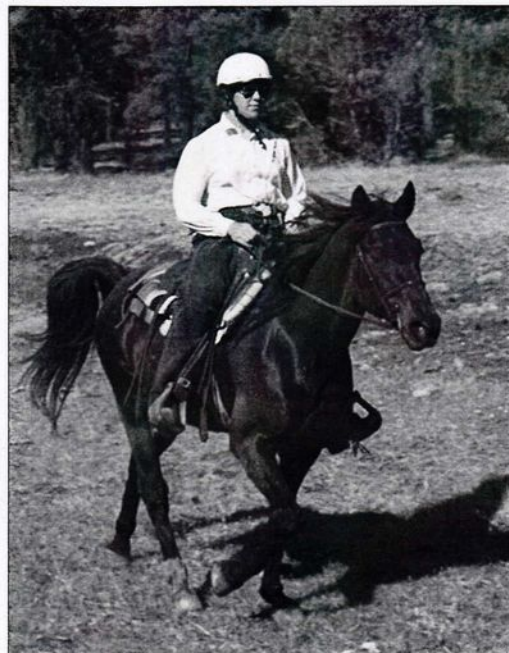
natural, most humane way for the trainer/rider to influence which gait the horse does. This gives us a very simple genetic explanation for why most gaited horses are multi-gaited, but leaves it all the more mysterious how a few horses can be nearly pure-gaited for only one 4-beat gait.

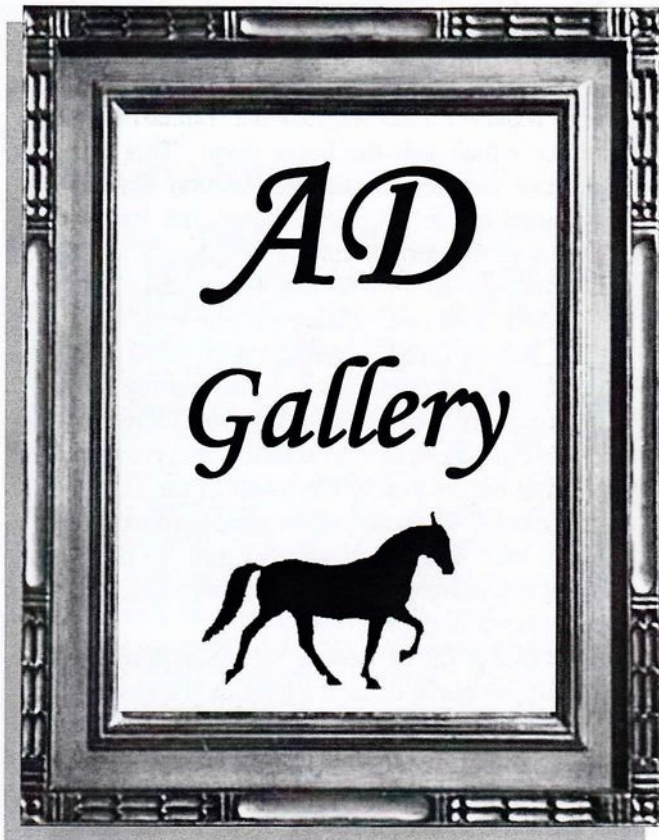
More than once I have caught very stocky trotting horses doing a foxtrot and even a few strides of pace in circumstances that put the horse in an extremely ventroflexed posture. Were those rare, brief instances of lateral movement exhibited by trotting horses purely the result of the extreme ventroflexion? If those horses were heterozygous for gait why don't they exhibit gait with their spine in the normal working postures that gaited horses use while gaiting?

While a lot of people say they don't care what gait the horse does "as long as it's smooth", the existence of breed registries named for specific gaits proves that there are groups of people who *do* care about distinctions between 4-beat gaits. It's quite true that some of the gaited organizations were motivated as much or more by politics than any real difference in the horses but it is nevertheless true that amble, running walk, foxtrot, rack, flying pace, paso llano, pasitrote, corto and trocha are different gaits.

Allanna on Koko in Porter Creek Canyon, June, 1996. Photo by Ian Allan Jackson.

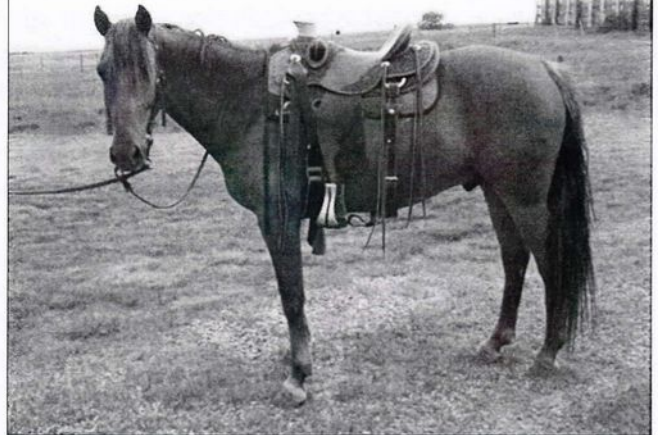
"Koko is the one TW horse I've owned that was self-correcting for running walk."





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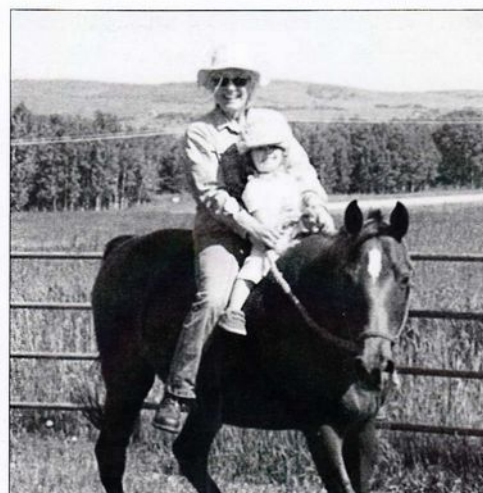
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